Rules for the Degree of Bachelor of Social Work
(Degree code: 02054)

- The College of Human Sciences operates the modular system together with semester and year registrations and examinations.
- Students must have passed all thirty modules on
- on first registration and on re-enrolment at this University the number of study units for which a student may register is
- The BSW degree cannot be completed in under FOUR YEARS.
- To be registered as a candidate for the BSW degree, a student must:
  - have satisfied the provisions of Rule G13 in Part 1 of the Calendar (an abstract of this Rule appears in Section 1) and
  - in each year in which Social Work is taken, be able to attend workshops and practice sessions at an approved Unisa Centre in CAPE TOWN, DURBAN, PRETORIA, POLOKWANE and JOHANNESBURG and in addition, on the fourth level undertaking practical work at a Welfare Organisation.

Students in other geographic areas such as Nelspruit, Pietermaritzburg, Port Elizabeth, Kimberley, Bloemfontein or elsewhere where arrangements for practical work can be made, will probably be able to do most of the practical work locally, but they will nevertheless be required to attend the workshops and practice sessions in either Cape Town, Durban, Pretoria or Johannesburg. The Department of Social Work cannot accommodate Namibian or Zimbabwean students.

Admission requirements

A31

(1) To be registered as a candidate for the BSW degree, a student must:
(a) have satisfied the provisions of Rule G13 in Part 1 of the Calendar (an abstract of this Rule appears in Section 1) and
(b) in each year in which Social Work is taken, be able to attend workshops and practice sessions at an approved Unisa Centre in CAPE TOWN, DURBAN, PRETORIA, POLOKWANE and JOHANNESBURG and in addition, on the fourth level undertaking practical work at a Welfare Organisation.

Students in other geographic areas such as Nelspruit, Pietermaritzburg, Port Elizabeth, Kimberley, Bloemfontein or elsewhere where arrangements for practical work can be made, will probably be able to do most of the practical work locally, but they will nevertheless be required to attend the workshops and practice sessions in either Cape Town, Durban, Pretoria or Johannesburg. The Department of Social Work cannot accommodate Namibian or Zimbabwean students.

NB

Students who will NOT be able to do practical work regularly at one of the centres mentioned above, will not be allowed to register for the BSW degree.

Note that considerable changes took place regarding the nature of the practical work as from 2001.

Applications for practical work placements for fourth-level students must be received by and confirmed with the Department by 30 November. Students have the responsibility of ensuring that their application forms are completed and received by the Department not later than 30 November. No applications or placements will be considered after 30 November.

Details regarding practical work will be found in A35, the brochure ‘Training in the Department of Social Work’ and in the curricula for Social Work in the subject chapter in Part 2 of the Calendar.

(c) Students whose last registration for a course in Social Work was at another university and who wish to proceed with the BSW degree at this University, may be considered for registration at Unisa only on the recommendation of the Chairperson of the Department of Social Work at the university concerned and must obtain confirmation from the Unisa Department of Social Work (Tel. 012 429 6642) that suitable arrangements for practical work can be made for them. Students who transfer from other universities will be required to repeat modules that are not equivalent to Unisa modules.

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Duration of study and number of study units per year

(1) The BSW degree cannot be completed in under FOUR YEARS.
(2) ON FIRST REGISTRATION AND ON RE-ENROLMENT at this University the number of study units for which a student may register is determined by ‘Number of study units per year’ in Calendar Part 1 as well as A4(3) and (4).
(3) Students must have passed all thirty modules on first to third level before registering for fourth-level modules.
(4) (a) Students who obtain an average of 60% and more in each of the third-level modules in Social Work may complete the fourth year over a period of one year.
(b) Students who obtain less than an average of 60% in any one of the third-level modules in Social Work must complete the fourth year over a period of two years.
(c) All students who failed or need to supplement one module in courses other than social work must complete the fourth year over a period of two years.
(d) Students who spread the fourth level over two years must register as follows:
  - First year: SCK405E, SCK406F, SCK407G, SCK408H, SCK410B,
  - Second year: SCK401A, SCK402B, SCK403C, SCK404D, SCK411C
  (Note: The theory and practical work modules of a method must be registered for simultaneously.)
(e) Applications for practical work placements must be received by and confirmed with the Department by 30 November. Students have the responsibility of ensuring that their applications forms are completed and received by the Department not later than 30 November. No applications or placements will be considered after 30 November.
NOTE THAT ANY REFERENCE TO COURSE I, II, III OR IV INCLUDES THE EQUIVALENT IN MODULES

(1) The curriculum comprises FORTY MODULES and practical social work.
(2) The major subject is Social Work and ONE of Philosophy, Psychology, Criminology, Development Studies, Communication or Sociology. Students who, prior to 2000, selected another major subject as specified in the 1999 Calendar, will be allowed to complete that major subject.
(3) The second major should be taken up to third level.
(4) All modules in the first year of studying Social Work are pegged on NQF Level 5. Social Work 1 consists of 8 modules. Students who want to register for ten modules on Level 1 may also register for the following two modules on Level 2 (NQF Level 6):
   APY102F : Culture as a human resource in the African context
   SCW101L : Welfare Law 101
   or
   SCW102M : Welfare Law 102

NB
- Social Work on levels I–IV should, where possible, be taken in consecutive years.
- The CODES appear under the syllabus for the relevant subject in Part 2 of the Calendar.
- See A35 in connection with practical work.

New curriculum

Purpose: Social Work focuses on understanding the interaction between persons and their environment and the problems arising from this person-in-context interaction. The purpose of the BSW degree is to train competent professional Social Workers who will contribute to upholding welfare rights, facilitate the meeting of basic social needs, empower people, groups and communities to develop resources and their own capacities, address and change Social Welfare Policy. The facilitation of effective professional practices based on a foundation of scientific knowledge, skill and development and Social Work Values.

This curriculum comprises 40 modules.

FIRST LEVEL

This level comprises the following 8 modules:

(Students who register for Social Work must be able to attend practice sessions at an approved centre at Unisa.)

   SCK101W : Welfare science and policy (Social Work 101)
   SCK102X : Introduction to social work and the helping process (Social Work 102)
   SCK103Y : Practical work (Social Work 103)
   INS102V : Developing informations skills for lifelong learning (Information Science 102)
   plus one of the following groups of 2 modules:
   PLS1033  : Introduction to Western Philosophy (Philosophy 103)
   PLS1044  : Introduction to African Philosophy (Philosophy 104)
   or
   PYC101Y : Basic psychology (Psychology 101)
   and
   PYC1023 : Psychology in society (Psychology 102)
   or
   CMY101B : Introduction to criminology: crime, criminals and criminal behaviour (Criminology 101)
   and
   CMY102C : Introduction to criminology: victims and reduction of crime (Criminology 102)
   or
   DVA101Q : Introduction to development studies (Development Studies 101)
   and
   DVA102R : Development problems and institutions (Development Studies 102)
   Note: students who select Development studies as a second major should take an additional elective on Level 2 (PYC206B: HIV/AIDS Care and Counselling)
   or
   COM101X : Fundamentals of communication (Communication Science 101)
   and
   COM102Y : Communication contexts and applications (Communication Science 102)
   or
2 of the following modules:
- SOC101V : Introduction to Sociology: Societal structures and processes (Sociology 101)
- SOC102W : Societal structures and processes in the South African context (Sociology 102)

or
2 modules from the abovementioned groups not already taken, or from the following:
- ENN103F : English for academic purposes (English 103)
- EUP1501 : End-user Computing (Practical) (Information Systems 1501)
- RST121U : Comparative religious studies: introduction to the religions of the world (Religious Studies 121)
- APY101E : The anthropological study of culture in a multicultural society (Anthropology 101)

SECOND LEVEL
This level comprises the following 12 modules:
- APY102F : Culture as a human resource in the African context (Anthropology 102)
- SCW101L : Welfare law (Welfare Law 101)
- SCW102M : Welfare law (Welfare Law 102)
- RSC201H : Research in the social sciences (Research in the Social Sciences 201)
- SCK2013 : Facilitative communication in groups and communities (Social Work 2013)
- SCK2024 : Practical work: facilitating communication in groups and communities (Social Work 2024)
- SCK2035 : Welfare policy (Social Work 2035)
- SCK2046 : Life tasks, obstacles, developmental resources and competency development (Social Work 2046)
- MGG201W : Marriage guidance and counselling (Marriage Guidance and Counselling 201)
- MGG202X : Marriage guidance and counselling: sexual trauma (Marriage Guidance and Counselling 202)

plus 1 of the following groups (second major) comprising 2 or 3 modules each:
- PLS102Y : Critical reasoning (Philosophy 102)
- PLS2105 : African Philosophy (Philosophy 210)
- PLS207B : Philosophy of science (Philosophy 207)

or
- PYC2015 : Personality theories (Psychology 2015)
- PYC2026 : Child and adolescent development (Psychology 2026)
- PYC205A : Community psychology (Psychology 205)

or
- any three of:
  - CMY201E : Crime risk perspectives (Criminology 201)
  - CMY202F : Principles of crime prevention, reduction and control (Criminology 202)
  - CMY203G : Child and youth misbehaviour (Criminology 203)
  - CMY204H : Dealing with young offenders (Criminology 204)

or
- DVA201T : Development theories (Development Studies 201)
- DVA202U : Rural and urban development (Development Studies 202)

or
- any 3 of:
  - COM2025 : Organisational communication (Communication Science 2025)
  - COM2036 : Integrated organisational communication (Communication Science 2036)
  - COM2048 : Intercultural development and health communication (Communication Science 2048)
  - COM2059 : Media studies: mass communication and media theory (Communication Science 2059)

or
- any 3 of:
  - SOC201Y : Theories of social change (Sociology 201)
  - SOC2023 : Globalisation and social change in South Africa (Sociology 2023)
  - SOC2045 : Sociology of population (Sociology 2045)
  - SOC2068 : Sociology of families and social problems (Sociology 2068)

plus the following module, or any 1 of the abovementioned second-level modules not yet chosen, if you have not already selected 10 modules for this level:
- PYC206B : HIV/AIDS care and counselling (Psychology 206)

THIRD LEVEL
This level comprises the following 10 modules:
- SCK3016 : Social case work (Social Work 3016)
- SCK3028 : Social group work (Social Work 3028)
- SCK3039 : Community work (Social Work 3039)
- SCK304A : Practical work in social case and group work (Social Work 304)
- SCK305B : Practical work: community work (Social Work 305)
plus 1 of the following groups comprising 5 modules each:

PLS2116 : Theoretical philosophy 211)
PLS305C : Contemporary african political philosophy (Philosophy 305)
PLS307E : African philosophy and modernity (Philosophy 307)
PLS308F : Advanced african philosophy (Philosophy 308)
PLS309G : Advanced western philosophy (Philosophy 309)

plus 1 other third-level module

or

PYC3019 : Social psychology (Psychology 3019)
PYC302A : Abnormal behaviour and mental health (Psychology 302)
PYC303B : Cognition: thinking, memory and problem solving (Psychology 303)
PYC304C : Psychological research (Psychology 304)
PYC305D : Transformative counselling encounters (Psychology 305)

or

CMY301H : Crimes of violence (Criminology 301)
CMY302J : Theories of crime and crime prevention: traditional to postmodern approaches (Criminology 302)
CMY303K : Contemporary crime issues: priority crimes in South Africa (Criminology 303)
CMY304L : Reaction to crime: sentencing, children and crime victims in the criminal justice system (Criminology 304)
CMY305M : Research methodology (Criminology 305)

or

DVA301W : Development policy and strategies (Development Studies 301)
DVA302X : Development planning (Development Studies 302)
DVA303Y : Projects and programmes as instruments of development (Development Studies 303)
DVA3043 : Empowerment and popular initiatives (Development Studies 3043)
DVA3054 : Community development and the basic needs approach (Development Studies 3054)

or any four of:

COM3018 : Marketing communication (Communication Science 3018)
COM3029 : Media studies: institutions, theories and issues (Communication Science 3029)
COM303A : Media studies: content, audiences and production (Communication Science 303)
COM304B : New media technology (Communication Science 304)
COM306D : Communication research (Communication Science 306)

plus 1 of the following modules:

COM305C : International communication (Communication Science 305)
COM307B : Public relations (Communication Science 3078)
COM311A : Political and government communication and media ethics (Communication Science 311)

or

SOC3015 : Thinking sociologically: research methodology (Sociology 3015)
SOC3049 : Industrial sociology (Sociology 3049)
SOC305A : Sociology of education (Sociology 305)
SOC306B : Group dynamics (Sociology 306)
SOC308D : Social theory (Sociology 308)

FOURTH LEVEL

This level comprises the following 10 modules. Each module contains a practical component.

SCK401A : Social casework: working with individuals – integrated theory and practice (Social Work 401)
SCK402B : Social casework: working with couples and families – integrated theory and practice (Social Work 402)
SCK403C : Social group work with children and youth – integrated theory and practice (Social Work 403)
SCK404D : Social group work with adults – integrated theory and practice (Social Work 404)
SCK405E : Community work: planning and integrated practice (Social Work 405)
SCK406F : Community work: execution of a project (Social Work 406)
SCK407G : Social work management: the social work organisation – integrated theory and practice (Social Work 407)
SCK408H : Social work management: the social worker as employee and manager (Social Work 408)
SCK410B : Research project: planning and execution (Social Work 410)
SCK411C : Statutory work, ethics and supervision (Social Work 411)

A student who registers for Social Work on second level must also register with the South African Council for Social Service Professions as a ‘Student Social Worker’ before 31 March of the year concerned. Such registration at the Council is also valid for Social Work III and IV. Students from other universities who enrol for Social Work II or III at Unisa, must also register with the Council if they have not been previously registered.

Application forms together with registration procedures will be sent to all level 2 Social Work students by the South African Council for Social Service Professions (SACSSP). Failing to do so will prevent students from continuing with their Social Work studies.
Registration with the SACSSP is a requirement in terms of the Social Service Professions Act (Act 110 of 1978).

### A35 Practical work
- All practical work is accommodated in separate modules.
- All practical work as specified and scheduled to be offered at specific Unisa venues is compulsory.
- All practical work must be supervised by a lecturer from the Department of Social Work or a supervisor appointed by the Department of Social Work.
- All practical work must be done in accordance with the requirements specified for the various methods (casework, group work, community work, administration and research).
- All practical work on level 4 must be undertaken at an organisation or facility approved by the Department of Social Work.
- Students who cannot proceed with their practical work must immediately inform the lecturer, the supervisor and the relevant organisation so that the placement can be cancelled.
- All students doing practical work are subject to the Social Service Professions Act with its rules and regulations, as is the case for all qualified social workers and auxiliary social workers.

Further particulars of practical work appear in the syllabuses for the courses in Social Work.

### A36 Admission to the examinations; pass and pass with distinction; subminimum; endorsement

(1) To qualify for admission to the examination in the modules in the first column listed below, students must have obtained 100 examination admission credits. In addition, students registered for Social Work IV (course structure) must complete all the practical work prescribed for the module in the second column before 30 September, and obtain at least 50% for it.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study unit</th>
<th>Theory</th>
<th>Practical</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social Work</td>
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<tr>
<td>(first level):</td>
<td>SCK101W</td>
<td>SCK103Y</td>
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<td></td>
<td>SCK102X</td>
<td>SCK2024</td>
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<tr>
<td>(second level):</td>
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<td>SCK2024</td>
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<td>SCK2035</td>
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<td>(third level):</td>
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<td>SCK302A</td>
<td>SCK304A</td>
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<td>SCK3039</td>
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<tr>
<td>(fourth level):</td>
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<td>SCK411C</td>
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</table>

In the case of the other modules of Social Work III and IV where no practical work is required students are required to obtain 100 examination admission credits by virtue of their answers to assignments.

(2) Pass
To pass Social Work I, II, III or IV, a student must obtain at least 50% in each of the modules concerned (practical included). See also General Rule G22 in Part 1 of the Calendar.

(3) Pass with distinction
To pass with distinction in Social Work IV, a student must obtain an average of at least 75% in all 10 modules.

(4) Candidates shall pass with distinction in a major subject if they pass Social Work IV with distinction or obtain at least 75% in Course III of the second major subject or pass at least five of the highest level modules prescribed for that subject as a major subject with an average of at least 75%.

(5) Candidates shall be awarded the degree with distinction if they pass both major subjects with distinction.

(6) Subminimum
See Rule G23 in Part 1 of the Calendar in connection with subminimum.

(7) Endorsement
The degree certificate of each candidate who has complied with the requirements for the BSW degree will be endorsed ‘Qualified as a Social Worker’.

### A37 Graduates wishing to qualify as social workers

Any graduate who can satisfy the provisions of A31(1), may qualify as a social worker by passing the undermentioned study units for non-degree purposes (NDP) provided that they completed their Bachelors degree at a South African university and majored in one of Philosophy, Communication Science, Criminology, Development Studies, Psychology and Sociology:
- Social Work (First – fourth levels)
- Social Welfare Law (101 and 102)
- Marriage Guidance and Counselling and Sexual Trauma (201 and 202)
As a result of the nature and scope of the practical work, students, in the subject Social Work are only permitted to register simultaneously for modules on first and second level of the same year but not for modules on second and third level or modules on third and fourth level. Before students are allowed to register for the fourth level, all modules in Social Work on first, second and third level, as well as all other modules as specified in Rule A37 must have been completed.

**NB**

If a graduate registers for the BSW degree or for a course in Social Work for non-degree purposes (NDP), and has completed a degree at another university, an original transcript of his/her complete academic record, or an original statement of all courses passed, issued by the Registrar of the university concerned, must be submitted together with his/her FIRST application for registration. A certified copy of his/her qualification at matriculation level is also required.

### A38 Marriage Guidance and Counselling

Marriage Guidance and Counselling is compulsory for the BSW degree but may also be taken for the BA degree.